Tobacco-Free School Policies

Information provided by:

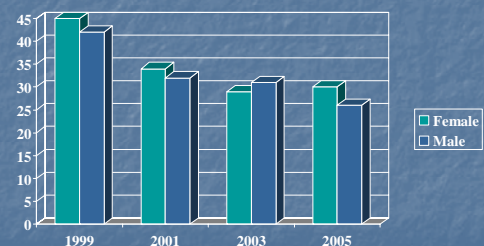
SD Department of Health Tobacco Control Program

Janelle Wishard, B.S.
NE Tobacco Prevention Coordinator

Smoking and Public Health

1. Single most preventable cause of death.
2. 90% of tobacco-using adults started before age eighteen.
3. It is estimated that one-third will eventually die from tobacco-related illnesses

3

Smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days by Year

2005 SD Youth Risk Behavior Survey

4

Benefits of Tobacco-Free Policy

1. Establish non-smoking as the norm.
2. Reinforce and support existing prevention efforts.
3. Provide a healthy working and learning environment for students and staff.
4. Encourage staff to quit using tobacco.
5. Identify tobacco violators and provide early intervention with at-risk behavior.

5

CDC Guidelines for School Health Programs to Prevent Tobacco Use and Addiction

- Prohibit tobacco use at all school facilities and events.
- Encourage and help students and staff quit using tobacco.
- Provide developmentally appropriate instruction in grades K-12 that addresses the social and psychological causes of tobacco use.
- Coordinated School Health Programs in place.
- Programs are reinforced by community-wide efforts to prevent tobacco use and addiction.

6

CDC Guidelines

The guidelines include seven recommendations for ensuring a quality school program to prevent tobacco use. Three of those include Policy, Curriculum and Tobacco Cessation Efforts.

7

Tobacco-Free Policy Criteria

1. A clear rationale for the policy focusing on reducing health risks related to tobacco.
2. Prohibit the use of tobacco products by students, school staff parents and visitors on school property, in school vehicles and at school-sponsored functions.
3. Prohibit tobacco advertising and tobacco promotions on school property.

8

Tobacco-Free Policy Criteria

4. Reinforce and support existing prevention efforts for students.
5. Clear procedures for communicating the policy to students, staff, parents and visitors.
6. Consistent enforcement of the policy.
7. Cessation Programs for students and staff who wish to quit tobacco use.

9

Developing a Policy

- Who is responsible for setting the policy.
- Rationale for developing and implementing the policy.
- Population to which the policy applies.
- Location to where the policy applies.
- Definition of terms
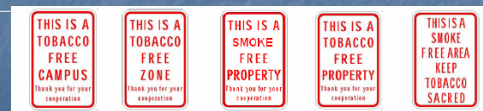- Enforcement of violation

10

Developing a Policy (con't)

- Consequences of violation.
- Programs that support the policy.
- Date of policy implementation.
- Dissemination of policy .
- Refer to Tobacco Policy Review Checklist

11

Enforcement

- Signage- Signs you see below are available at no charge from the SD Dept of Health's Tobacco Control Program. You can find a sign order form by going to DOH's website at:
  http://www.state.sd.us/doh/tobacco/ResourceGuideweb.pdf

12

Enforcement (con't)

- School Staff assisting with monitoring school campus and referring violations to the appropriate person. Ie: SRO, Principal, SAP Coordinator etc.
- Other ideas brought forth by school staff, parents and youth

13

Consequences

- Verbal or written warnings (1st offense)
- Fines (SD State Statue)
- In-School Suspension
- Out-of-School Suspension
- Alternative to school suspension
- Youth Cessation

14

Examples of Youth Cessation Programs

1. Self-help print materials.
2. Brief interventions by health care providers.
3. Two- or three-hour education classes.
4. Not On Tobacco (N-O-T)

15

Implementing School Cessation Programs

1. During the school day
   - Study period
   - Lunch hour
   - Rotate during regular class hours

2. Refer to community based programs

16

Other Cessation Programs for Youth and Staff

- Contacting their primary care provider
- www.Quitnet.com
- SD QuitLine

South Dakota Department of Health
QUITLINE
1-866-SD QUITS
(1-866-737-8487)

17

Tobacco-Free School Policies

Questions...

Thank you!